

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A disposable diaper which has a substantially elongate configuration and comprises a main body having a pair of side edges, and the main body having a liquid-permeable topsheet, a liquid-impermeable backsheet, a liquid-retentive absorbent member interposed between said topsheet and said backsheet and a pair of fastening tapes provided on respective side edges of said main body,

a waist opening portion and an under-waist portion being present in a portion of the diaper, with the under-waist portion having said fastening tapes directly attached thereto, the waist opening portion being provided with a continuous waist elastic member arranged in an extended state in a width direction of the diaper, and the under-waist portion being positioned right below the waist opening portion and being provided with a plurality of under-waist elastic members oriented in the width direction of the diaper, which are separate from the continuous waist elastic member, and

a pair of longer side portions of said diaper each being provided with a sheet forming an upright cuff and said pair of longer side portions further containing leg elastic members,

wherein the continuous waist elastic member and the plurality of under-waist elastic members do not touch each other,

wherein said under-waist elastic members are fixedly disposed in at least areas extending outwardly from each longer side of the absorbent member in their stretched state, while the liquid-permeable topsheet or the liquid-impermeable backsheet or the sheet forming one of the upright cuffs are expanded in a plane, so as to manifest contractibility,

wherein said under-waist elastic members are not disposed in at least a middle portion of said under-waist portion where a portion of said absorbent member exists, and said under-waist portion

having said fastening tapes has a greater extension stress in a width direction of the diaper than said waist opening portion;

wherein said under-waist elastic members are fixed between the sheet forming one of the upright cuffs and the liquid-impermeable backsheet, and

wherein a portion of said diaper that is (i) at an opposite end of said diaper from said pair of fastening tapes provided on said respective side edges of said main body, and (ii) across a crotch portion of said diaper from said pair of fastening tapes provided on said respective side edges of said main body, contains a second waist opening portion being provided with a continuous waist elastic member arranged in an extended state in a width direction of the diaper, with no elastic members oriented in a width direction being arranged in a width direction of said diaper in a portion of the diaper extending [[in]] between said crotch portion and said second waist opening portion of said diaper.

2. (Original) The disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein said fastening tapes each have a fastening part which mechanically engages with a landing zone.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper according to claim 1, wherein each of said leg elastic members are disposed along an inwardly curved line, said under-waist elastic members are disposed in an area that is nearer to a middle of a width direction of said diaper, than respective

ends of said pair of leg elastic members located in a portion of the diaper having said pair of fastening tapes provided on respective side edges of said main body.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A disposable diaper which has a substantially elongate configuration having a first end portion at one end thereof, a second end portion at a second end thereof, and a crotch portion in between said first and second end portions, and comprising a main body having a pair of side edges, and the main body having a liquid-permeable topsheet, a liquid-impermeable backsheet, a liquid-retentive absorbent member interposed between said topsheet and said backsheet and a pair of fastening tapes provided on respective side edges of said main body,

a waist opening portion and an under-waist portion being present on the first end portion of said diaper, with the under-waist portion having said fastening tapes directly attached thereto, the waist opening portion being provided with a continuous waist elastic member arranged in an extended state in a width direction of the diaper, and the under-waist portion being positioned directly below the waist opening portion and being provided with a plurality of under-waist elastic members oriented in a width direction of the diaper, which are separate from the continuous waist elastic member, and

a pair of longer side portions of said diaper being respectively provided with a pair of leg elastic members,

wherein the continuous waist elastic member and the plurality of under-waist elastic members do not touch each other,

wherein said under-waist elastic members are fixedly disposed in at least areas extending outwardly from each longer side of the absorbent member in their stretched state so as to manifest contractibility,

wherein said under-waist elastic members are not disposed in at least a middle portion of said under-waist portion where a portion of said absorbent member exists, and said under-waist portion has a greater extension stress than said waist opening portion in a width direction of the diaper than said waist opening portion, and

wherein said second end portion contains a second waist opening portion being provided with a continuous waist elastic member arranged in an extended state in a width direction of the diaper, with no elastic members oriented in a width direction being arranged in a width direction of said diaper in a portion of the diaper extending [[in]] between said crotch portion and said second waist opening portion of said diaper.

6. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper according to claim 5, wherein said fastening tapes each have a fastening part which mechanically engages with a landing zone.

7. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper according to claim 5, wherein said under-waist elastic members are fixed between sheets making up said main body.

8. (Previously Presented) The disposable diaper according to claim 7, wherein each of said pair of leg elastic members are disposed along an inwardly curved line, said under-waist elastic members are disposed in an area nearer to a middle of a width direction of said diaper, than

***37 CFR § 1.111 Reply to
Office Action of October 6, 2006***

**Attorney Docket No. 0445-0315P
Serial No. 10/058,087**

respective ends of said pair of leg elastic members located in a portion of the diaper having said pair of fastening tapes provided on respective side edges of said main body.